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coln was very serious and shook his head.

I do not know what political considerations, if any, he was weighing. There had been talk of making him Seward's running mate, Seward to have first place on the ticket. The thing that seemed to be uppermost in his mind at the moment was the effect a sudden increase in worldly wealth might have on his wife and boys. Two or three years before this Lincoln had collected a fee of \$5,000 for successfully defending the Illinois Central Railroad when its charter was attacked, but this was very exceptional. His practice was large but not lucrative.

I went with him to Meriden and Hartford, where he made speeches. As a native of Connecticut I knew the prominent Republicans there and Lincoln wanted me along. I went with him back West, determined if possible to persuade him to accept Corning's offer. I did not dream then that he might be nominated for President. My only thought was his financial betterment. We talked the matter over on our way west. Lincoln would not decide.

A FEW days after he got back to Springfield I went there from Chicago to see him and urge his acceptance of Corning's offer. I reached his law office at about 9 o'clock in the morning, but he had not arrived. William H. Herndon, his partner, was there, and said he was surprised that Mr. Lincoln had not reported. At about 9.30 o'clock Mr. Lincoln came in. Of all the God-forsaken looking men I had ever seen he was the worst. He looked as if he had been up all night and he seemed fearfully depressed.

"Mr. Lincoln," I said as soon as I was alone with him, "your good fortune seems to have a queer effect on you. Of course you'll accept Corning's offer?"

"No, Merwin," said he, "I have decided to decline it. I've got his letter offering me the place. I'm going to answer it today."

In the afternoon he read me Corning's offer and his own letter of declination. In commenting on his decision he repeated his declaration, "Ten thousand dollars a year would ruin my wife and boys."

Before the day was out I learned what had made him late at the office. Very early in the morning he had repaired to a little grove on the outskirts of Springfield where he was wont to go from time to time for complete solitude and reflection, and he had literally wrestled—wrestled like a Jacob—with the question of leaving Springfield and becoming a New York corporation lawyer.

[The second story told by Major Merwin was published in a recent issue of the *Century*. It was told to the Major by Lincoln himself one day in his office in Springfield. The Peter Cartwright of the story was, of course, the noted Methodist pioneer preacher, who had beaten Lincoln (the only time he was ever beaten for an elective office) in 1832 as candidate for the Illinois legislature.]

WHEN the Whigs nominated Lincoln for Congress in 1846 in the Springfield district, the Democrats, hoping to repeat their triumph of 1832, chose Peter Cartwright as their nominee. One of the issues of this campaign was religious orthodoxy. Lincoln was looked upon with suspicion because he would not subscribe to creeds. The Democrats thought they could beat him by injecting the religious issue. What Lincoln told me

(Continued on page vii.)

Brazil	Russia	Germany	Netherlands	Argentina	Peru
Cuba	Belgium	Costa Rica	Bolivia	Bulgaria	Italy
Japan	Columbia	Denmark	Ecuador	England	Persia
Italy					Servia
China					Spain
Chile					Panama
France					Austria
Norway					Sweden
Greece	Afghanistan	Salvador	Abyssinia	Honduras	Turkey
Morocco	Nicaragua	Paraguay	Portugal	Rumania	Korea
Mexico	Montenegro	Uruguay	Venezuela	Schweizerland	Siam

## MAKES ALL NATIONS OUR NEAR NEIGHBORS

THE trend of the times is toward internationalism. We can no longer stand aloof from the countries of the world either in diplomacy or trade. We must meet, greet and do business with the people of other lands. We must cooperate with them; we must compete with them.

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(Continued from page v.)

of the campaign warrants the assumption that there was nothing dull about it. Joshua F. Speed, Lincoln's friend, took a keen interest in Lincoln's fight and went about with him to various points in the district. Lincoln appointed a meeting for Cartwright's home town.

"Abe," said Speed, "you'd better stay away from there. That town is a Cartwright town. Cartwright's friends will take it as an affront if you go there to speak."

"I've got as many friends there as Cartwright has," replied Lincoln, "and I'm going out there to talk to them."

As soon as the Lincoln afternoon meeting was advertised, Cartwright, not to be overshadowed, advertised a religious revival meeting for the same evening. Lincoln's meeting was very largely attended. Lincoln mixed with the people in characteristic fashion, and made a winning impression with his address.

"Speed," said he to his friend, "I want to hear what Dominie Cartwright has got to say to-night. I think he'll light into me. I'm going to stay over to the meeting to-night."

"Don't do it," cautioned Speed. "The old preacher is a fighter. Your presence at his revival meeting, after what he has said about your lack of religious regularity, will make it seem as if you were looking for trouble. Stay away from the meeting."

BUT Lincoln was determined to attend, and go he did. He sat in a rear seat, and probably his presence cast a depression over the meeting. Cartwright spoke powerfully along evangelistic lines, warning the unregenerate of their danger. Finally he gave the invitation about as follows:

"All who desire to lead a new life, to give their hearts to God, and go to heaven, will stand."

A sprinkling of men, women and children rose. After they were seated the preacher went on:

"All who do not wish to go to hell will stand."

All the audience responded to this invitation with the exception of Lincoln. Whereupon every one expected something would happen; and it did.

"Sit down," said the preacher.

"I observe," he continued when all was again still, "that many responded to the first invitation to give their hearts to God and go to heaven. And I further observe that all of you save one indicated that you did not desire to go to hell. The sole exception," continued the preacher, his voice growing more impressive, "is Mr. Lincoln, who did not respond to either invitation. May I inquire of you, Mr. Lincoln," said Cartwright, with great earnestness and in a loud voice, "where you are going?"

THE tall form of Lincoln rose to its full height, and he replied:

"I can't be here as a respectful listener. I did not know that I was to be singled out by Brother Cartwright. I believe in treating religious matters with due solemnity. I admit that the questions propounded by Brother Cartwright are of great importance. I did not feel called upon to answer as the rest of you did. Brother Cartwright asks me directly where I am going? I desire to reply with equal directness: *I am going to Congress.*"

The reply was so unexpected that it upset the meeting, and Cartwright, in his chagrin, soon dismissed the meeting. Lincoln had turned the tables on his adversary.

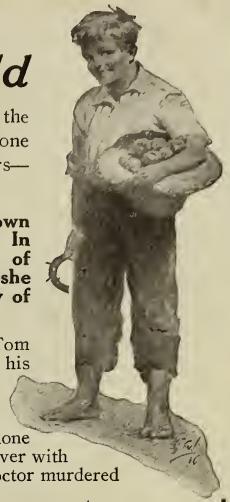
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And each man who reads knows his own mother in Aunt Polly, and wishes he had a chance to do it all over again and make it up to a long-suffering mother.



## MARK TWAIN

### Another Lincoln in Spirit

Mark Twain made us laugh, so that we had no time to see that his style was sublime, that he was almost biblical in simplicity, that he was to America another Lincoln in spirit.

To us, to everyone in the United States, he was just Mark Twain—well beloved, one of ourselves, one to laugh with, one to go for cheer. Mark Twain's smile will live forever. His laughter is eternal.

The man who could write two such books as "Huckleberry Finn" and "Joan of Arc" was splendid in power. All that is lovable and big in American life, he has expressed. But above all, that intangible something that makes America what it is, the world finds in Mark Twain. He is our Mark Twain. He is the great American. Europe so recognizes him. Asia so knows him.

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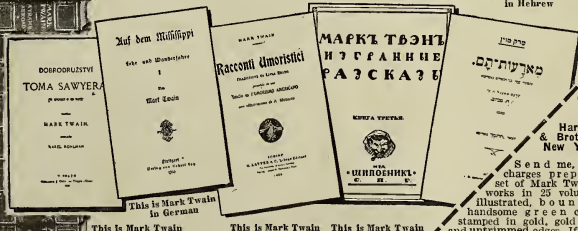
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